

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system for providing temporary wireless telephone numbers, the system comprising:

a first switching system configured to receive a registration request from a an end user wireless call device without an assigned telephone number, and process the registration request to generate a registration message; and

a service control point configured to receive the registration message, and process the registration message to automatically assign a temporary wireless telephone number to the end user wireless call device, and generate and provide a registration response message to the first switching system that includes the temporary wireless telephone number.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein subsequent to receiving the registration response message from the service control point SCP, the first switching system is configured to receive a call request from the wireless call device and process the call request to complete a call to a called number.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the service control point is configured to process the registration message to validate the wireless call device.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the service control point is configured to process the registration message to generate and provide a first query message that includes a request for the temporary wireless telephone number.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4 further comprising:

a second switching system configured to receive the first query message, and process the first query message to generate a second query message that includes the request for the temporary wireless telephone number, and process a first response message to generate a second response message for the service control point that includes the temporary wireless telephone number; and

a wireless telephone number server configured to receive the second query message from the second switching system, and process the second query message to select the temporary wireless telephone number from a pool of temporary wireless telephone numbers, and generate and provide the first response message to the second switching system.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the service control point is configured to process the second response message to associate the temporary wireless telephone number with the wireless call device, and generate and provide the registration response message to the first switching system.

7. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein the service control point is configured to generate and provide a context message that includes the temporary wireless telephone number.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 further comprising:

a voice response unit configured to receive the context message and a second call request from the wireless call device and process the second call request to provide the temporary wireless telephone number to a user of the wireless call device.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the first switching system is configured to receive a third call request from the wireless call device and process the third call request to generate a third query message that includes a request for call handling information and the service control point is configured to receive the third query message and process the third query message to generate and provide the call handling information to the first switching system, wherein the call handling information includes instructions to route the call request to a second called number.

10. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein the service control point is configured to automatically release the temporary wireless number back into the pool of temporary wireless numbers after a predetermined period of time.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the predetermined period of time is one day.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the predetermined period of time is one week.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the predetermined period of time is one month.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein ~~the~~ a voice response unit is configured to receive ~~a fourth~~ the call request from the wireless call device and process the fourth call request to generate a first release message for the service control point and the service control point is configured to process the first release message to generate a second release message for the second switching system and the second switching system is configured to process the second release message to generate a third release message for the wireless telephone number server and the wireless telephone number server is configured to release the temporary wireless telephone number back into the pool of temporary wireless telephone numbers.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the service control point is configured to generate and provide the second release message in response to an expiration of the predetermined period of time.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8 wherein the service control point is configured to generate and provide billing information to the voice response unit and the voice response unit is configured to provide the billing information to the user of the wireless call device in response to ~~a fifth~~ the call request from the wireless call device.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein the a voice response unit is configured to receive a ~~sixth~~ call request from the wireless call device and process the ~~sixth~~ call request to generate a request message for the service control point that includes a request for an extension of the predetermined period of time and the service control point is configured to process the request message to extend the predetermined period of time.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a communication system that provides temporary wireless telephone numbers, the method comprising:

receiving a registration request in a first switching system from a an end user wireless call device;

processing the registration request to generate a registration message for a service control point;

receiving the registration message in the service control point;

processing the registration message to automatically assign a temporary wireless telephone number to the end user wireless call device and generate a registration response message for the first switching system that includes the temporary wireless telephone number; and

providing the registration response message to the first switching system.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

receiving a call request from the wireless call device in the first switching system subsequent to receiving the registration response message from the service control point SCP; and

processing the call request to complete a call to a called number.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

processing the registration message in the service control point to validate the wireless call device.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

processing the registration message in the service control point to generate a first query message that includes a request for the temporary wireless telephone number; and
providing the first query message.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

receiving the first query message in a second switching system;
processing the first query message to generate and provide a second query message that includes the request for the temporary wireless telephone number;
receiving the second query message in a wireless telephone number server;
processing the second query message to select the temporary wireless telephone number from a pool of temporary wireless telephone numbers and generate and provide a first response message to the second switching system; and
processing the first response message in the second switching system to generate and provide a second response message to the service control point that includes the temporary wireless telephone number.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

processing the second response message in the service control point to associate the temporary wireless telephone number with the wireless call device; and
generating and providing the registration response message to the first switching system.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

generating a context message in the service control point that includes the temporary wireless telephone number; and
providing the context message to a voice response unit.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 ~~the method~~ further comprising
receiving the context message in the voice response unit;
receiving a ~~second~~ call request from the wireless call device in the voice response unit;
and
processing the ~~second~~ call request to provide the temporary wireless telephone number to
a user of the wireless call device.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 ~~the method~~ further comprising:
receiving a ~~third~~ call request in the first switching system from the wireless call device;
processing the ~~third~~ call request to generate a third query message for the service control
point that includes a request for call handling information; and
receiving the third query message in the service control point and processing the third
query message to generate and provide the call handling information to the first switching
system, wherein the call handling information includes instructions to route the call request to a
~~second~~ called number.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 24 ~~the method~~ further comprising:
automatically releasing the temporary wireless number back into the pool of temporary
wireless numbers after a predetermined period of time.

28. (Currently Amended) The method ~~system~~ of claim 27 wherein the predetermined period of
time is one day.

29. (Currently Amended) The method ~~system~~ of claim 27 wherein the predetermined period of
time is one week.

30. (Currently Amended) The method ~~system~~ of claim 27 wherein the predetermined period of
time is one month.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

receiving a ~~fourth~~ call request in the a voice response unit from the wireless call device and processing the ~~fourth~~ call request to generate a first release message for the service control point;

~~processing the first release message in the service control point to generate a second release message for the second switching system;~~

~~processing the second release message in the second switching system to generate a third release message for the wireless telephone number server; and~~

~~processing the third release message in the wireless telephone number server to release the temporary wireless telephone number back into the pool of temporary wireless telephone numbers.~~

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

generating the second release message in the service control point in response to an expiration of the predetermined period of time; and

providing the second release message to the second switching system.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

generating billing information in the service control point and providing the billing information to the voice response unit;

receiving a ~~fifth~~ the call request in the voice response unit; and

providing the billing information to the user of the wireless call device in response to the ~~fifth~~ call request from the wireless call device.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 ~~the method~~ further comprising:

receiving a ~~sixth~~ call request from the wireless call device in the a voice response unit;

processing the ~~sixth~~ call request to generate a request message for the service control point that includes a request for an extension of the predetermined time period;

processing the request message in the service control point to extend the predetermined period of time.